

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 8 without prejudice to or disclaimer of their subject matter.

Please amend Claims 1, 3, 4, 7 and 9 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A picture reading device, comprising:

~~a light irradiating~~ an illuminating unit adapted to ~~irradiate~~ illuminate a surface of ~~an object~~ a sheet to be read with light; and

a reading unit adapted to read ~~an irradiated region irradiated by the light irradiating unit on the~~ illuminated surface of the ~~object to be read~~ sheet as a picture, for the purpose of calculating a roughness of the surface of the sheet based on the picture read by said reading unit, ~~and~~

~~an arithmetically calculating unit adapted to arithmetically calculate information related to the object to be read on the basis of a read result of the reading unit,~~

wherein ~~the light irradiating~~ said illuminating unit ~~and the reading unit are~~ is arranged in such a manner that a line resulting from projecting a line connecting the ~~light irradiating~~ illuminating unit and the reading unit on a ~~conveyance~~ surface of the ~~object to be read~~ sheet is oblique to a conveying direction ~~on the conveyance surface of the object to be read~~ sheet.

2. (Original) A picture reading device according to claim 1, wherein the projected line is oblique to the conveying direction with about 45 degrees.

3. (Currently Amended) A picture reading device according to claim 1, wherein the reading unit comprises one of a CMOS sensor and a CCD sensor each having a plurality of pixels, and the reading unit reads the surface of the ~~object to be read~~ sheet as a two-dimensional image.

4. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising:
~~a light irradiating~~ an illuminating unit adapted to ~~irradiate~~ illuminate a surface of a recording material with light;

a reading unit adapted to read ~~an irradiated region irradiated by the light irradiating unit on a~~ the illuminated surface of the recording material ~~to be read~~ as a picture; and

~~an arithmetically~~ a calculating unit adapted to ~~arithmetically~~ calculate a roughness of information related to the recording material on the basis of a read result of the based on the picture read by said reading unit,

wherein ~~the light irradiating~~ said illuminating unit ~~and the reading unit are~~ is arranged in such a manner that a line resulting from projecting a line connecting the ~~light irradiating~~ illuminating unit and the reading unit on a ~~conveyance~~ surface of the recording material is oblique to a conveying direction ~~on the conveyance surface~~ of the recording material.

5. (Original) An image forming apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the projected line is oblique to the conveying direction with about 45 degrees.

6. (Original) An image forming apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the reading unit comprises one of a CMOS sensor and a CCD sensor each comprising a plurality of pixels, and the reading unit reads the surface of the recording material as a two-dimensional image.

7. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising a control unit adapted to control an image formation condition on the basis of the ~~arithmetic operation results of the arithmetically operating~~ calculating results of the calculating unit.

Claim 8. (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim ~~[[8]]~~ 4, wherein the ~~arithmetically operating~~ calculating unit ~~arithmetically operates~~ calculates both of ~~the~~ a size of ~~the~~ concave and convex portions and ~~the~~ a width of ~~the~~ concave and convex portions on the recording ~~medium~~ material.

Please add Claims 10-14 as follows:

10. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising a discriminating unit adapted to discriminate a type of the recording material on the basis of the calculating results of the calculating unit.

11. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 10, further comprising a control unit to control an image formation condition on the basis of the discriminating results of the discriminating unit.

12. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said image formation condition is developing condition on the basis of the discriminating results of the discriminating unit.

13. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said image formation condition is temperature of a fixing unit on the basis of the discriminating results of the discriminating unit.

14. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said image formation condition is conveying speed of the recording material on the basis of the discriminating results of the discriminating unit.